CAPSULE SUMMARY
BA-0279
Pork Forest
12940 Harford Road
Hydes, Baltimore County
1818
Private

Located at 12940 Harford Road, the property known as Pork Forest is sited at the top of a low hill to the north of Harford Road, in the village of Reckord. Replacing an earlier one-story log house, Joseph Johnson constructed the extant two-and-a-half-story stone dwelling in 1818, using the popular Federal style of architecture to guide form and detailing. The thirty-five-acre parcel remained in the Johnson family until its 1932 sale by Matthew M. Johnson to architect John H. Scarff, who expanded the dwelling and landscaped the property.

Pork Forest is sited a great distance to the north of Harford Road and is accessible by a long paved driveway that traverses low rolling hills and passes a couple mid- to late 19th century dwellings. As it approaches Pork Forest, the driveway makes a sharp turn to the west and then turns again to the north, where it terminates in front of the 1818 two-and-a-half-story house. The three-bay-wide, single-pile coursed rubble stone dwelling features a slate tile-clad side gable with no overhang. Extending as a shed roof over the facade, the roof shelters a two-story three-bay wide, full-width porch on a coursed rubble stone foundation. Two interior end chimneys rise along the gable ends of the building. In 1995, a wood frame addition clad in a stretcher bond brick veneer was constructed on the north elevation of the original dwelling. A portion of this addition incorporated the raised foundation of a circa 1818 carriage house, the structure of which was no longer extant. An exterior end chimney rises along the east elevation of the addition. An attached garage marks the north terminus of the late 20th century addition. East of the house and at the base of a steep hill is a circa 1818 springhouse. The cemetery, which dates to 1841, is sited to the north of the dwelling. At the southeast corner of the house is the 1937 gazebo, which is located at the east end of a grassy vista bordered on the north by a stone retaining wall and on the south by a row of four Ionic columns. A short distance to the west of the dwelling is a circa 1995 shed.

Inventory No. BA-0279

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

1. Name of I	Property	(indicate preferred na	ame)		
historic other	Pork Forest				
2. Location					
street and number city, town county	12940 Harford F <u>Hydes</u> Baltimore Coun				not for publication vicinity
3. Owner of	Property	(give names and mailing a	addresses of all owr	ners)	
name street and number city, town	Daniel L. and M 12940 Harford F Hydes		state MD	telephone zip code	410.817.4954 21082-9504
ContribContribDeternDeternXRecordHistori	buting Resource in buting Resource in nined Eligible for the nined Ineligible for ded by HABS/HAE c Structure Report	tax map 45 Additional Data National Register District Local Historic District The National Register/Maryland The National Register/Maryland The National Register/Maryland The Research Report at MHT	-	l tax I	D number 1102004450
Other:					
Category —district X buildinq(s) —structure — -site —X object	Ownershippublic X private both	^_health care	landscape recreation/cultu religion social transportation work in progresunknown vacant/not in uother:	ss 3 Number o previously	ng Noncontributing

7. Description Inventory No. BA-0279

Condition

<u>X</u>	excellent	deteriorated
	_good	ruins
	fair	_ altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The property historically known as Pork Forest is sited a great distance to the north of Harford Road and is accessible by a long paved driveway that traverses low rolling hills and passes a couple mid- to late 19th century dwellings. As it approaches Pork Forest, the driveway makes a sharp turn to the west and then turns again to the north, where it terminates in front of the 1818 two-and-a-half-story house. The three-bay-wide, single-pile coursed rubble stone dwelling features a slate tile-clad side gable with no overhang. Extending as a shed roof over the facade, the roof shelters a two-story three-bay wide, full-width porch on a coursed rubble stone foundation. Two interior end chimneys rise along the gable ends of the building. In 1995, a wood frame addition clad in a stretcher bond brick veneer was constructed on the north elevation of the original dwelling. A portion of this addition incorporated the raised foundation of a circa 1818 carriage house, the structure of which was no longer extant. An exterior end chimney rises along the east elevation of the addition. An attached garage marks the north terminus of the late 20* century addition. East of the house and at the base of a steep hill is a circa 1818 springhouse. The cemetery, which dates to 1841, is sited to the north of the dwelling. At the southeast corner of the house is the 1937 gazebo, which is located at the east end of a grassy vista bordered on the north by a stone retaining wall and on the south by a row of four Ionic columns. A short distance to the west of the dwelling is a circa 1995 shed.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The three-bay-wide facade fronts west and features a central entry flanked by two 8/12 windows. A single-leaf door flanked by 8/8 windows also centrally pierces the second story. All facade openings have square-edged wood surrounds and sills. All windows feature operable louvered wood shutters. The full-width porch that shelters both stories has a shed roof supported by square wood posts, the spaces between which are spanned by balustrade composed of horizontal square-edged wood rails. The spandrels at the sides of the roof are clad in wood weatherboard. One foundation stone at the north end of the porch is inscribed with the date 1818.

The west end of the south elevation pierced at the basement level by one sash-and-paneled single-leaf door. Two four-light fixed windows flank the chimney at the attic story. A flush vertical board single-leaf wood door provides access to a storage space below the porch. All openings have square-edged wood surrounds and sills.

The east elevation of the original dwelling is pierced at the foundation level by two eight-light awning windows. Three equally spaced 8/12 windows pierce the first story of the elevation. The central window, however, is an early 19' century alteration. The space below the window opening has been filled in with stone, revealing vertical mortal lines that extend downward from either side of the window. Two 8/8 windows pierce the outer bays of the second story. All windows have square-edged wood surrounds and sills. A molded and boxed cornice spans the width of the elevation.

The north elevation of the original building has been obscured at the first and second stories by the addition. The attic story, however, is exposed and reveals two four-light fixed windows with square-edged wood surrounds and sills.

The 1995 addition features a complex footprint comprising a two-story, three-bay-wide main block and wing. All window openings on the addition are filled with vinyl sash and have vinyl surrounds and rowlock sills. The west elevation of the two-story main block features a side entry with a recessed sash-and-paneled single-leaf door beside two 6/6 windows. One 6/6 window and two 8/12 windows pierce the second story. The one-and-a-half-story portion of the

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wing that sits on the 1818 random rubble stone foundation is pierced by one 8/12 window. A sash-and-paneled single-leaf vinyl door and one paneled vinyl roll-up door pierce the west elevation of the attached one-story garage.

The south elevation of the addition is pierced at the first story by a thirty-light double-leaf sliding door and at the second story by two 8/12 windows.

Two 6/6 windows pierce the east elevation of the attached garage. One 8/12 window is centrally located on the one-and-a-half story portion of the wing. An exterior end stretcher bond brick chimney that is shouldered and has a corbeled cap bisects the east elevation of the addition's main block. Two twenty-light casement windows and two 8/12 windows flank the chimney at the first and second stories, respectively.

Two 8/8 windows at the first story and two 8/12 windows at the second story pierce the north elevation of the main block. One 6/6 window is centrally located on the north elevation of the attached garage.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The interior of the dwelling features a hall/parlor plan on the first story, augmented on the second floor by two rooms and a lateral hallway that spans the rear of the dwelling. The hall is the larger of the two first story rooms and features a projecting chimney with a Federal style hearth surround and mantle. The surround and mantle are nearly five feet square with a molded shelf supported by pilasters and a bilaterally symmetrical tripartite entablature. In the northeast corner of the room enclosed winder stairs ascend to the second story and descend to the basement. Both have doors that are sixpaneled with square-edged casements. A molded chair board spans the perimeter of the room and serves as the interior windowsill below molded window casements. The molded baseboard that surrounds the room is five-and-a-half-inches tall. The parlor is similarly detailed with a baseboard, chair board, and molded window casements. The fireplace mantle is roughly four-and-a-half-feet square with a molded shelf. The second floor rooms feature the same molded detailing as those of the first floor. The attic is largely finished with lathe and plaster. Framed walls separate the eaves sides of the attic from the central north-south corridor. The crawl spaces that exist on either side of these walls are not finished, revealing the roofs framing system. The rafters sit flush on a false plate. The basement features undivided space and a large hearth on a stretcher bond brick deck at the south end of the building. The segmental stone arch supports a coursed rubble stone wall above the hearth.

A short rise of stairs lead from the north end of the hall into the 1995 addition, which is primarily divided into a kitchen and family room. Additional rooms within the addition include a bathroom and laundry room on the first floor and a master bedroom on the second floor. A steep flight of stairs leads from the one-and-a-half-story portion of the wing into the attached garage.

OUTBUILDINGS

The circa 1818 springhouse, located west of the dwelling, is a one-bay rectangular, one-story structure. The coursed rubble stone building has a front gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The facade, or east elevation, is centrally pierced by single-leaf door opening with a wood surround. The single-leaf door is not extant.

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The family cemetery, which is located to the north of the dwelling, includes four graves within a low, dry-laid random rubble stone wall enclosure. Three of the four upright limestone headstones feature tripartite, bilateral symmetry comprising shoulders and a raised head. These markers have footstones with a similar shape. The fourth grave marker is a segmental arch with a narrow segmental-arched footstone. The headstones, which date from a period beginning as early as 1841 and ending in 1869, all mark graves of Johnson family members. The headstones are severely worn and difficult to read. The earliest readable date is 1841.

The gazebo, constructed near the southeast comer of the dwelling in 1937, is a one-story, one-bay square wood frame structure pierced on four sides by wide openings. The comers of the building feature paneled wood cladding that supports a steeply pitched pyramidal roof clad in slate tiles and surmounted by a small metal ball finial.

The row of four concrete Ionic columns extends to the west from the southwest comer of the gazebo. The columns, which are roughly ten feet tall, were added to the property in the 1930s.

The one-story circa 1995 shed is a one-bay rectangular wood frame structure clad in grooved plywood. The hipped roof is clad in asphalt shingles. The facade is pierced by a wide entry opening with a double-leaf door and two 4/4 vinyl windows. All openings have wood surrounds.

8. Significance Inventory No. BA-0279

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justif	y below	
_ 1600-1699 _ 1700-1799 X 1800-1899 X 1900-1999 2000-	agriculturearcheology X architecture _ artcommerce _ communicationscommunity planning conservation	recreation - ethnic heritage - exploration/ -	health/medicine industry invention Iandscape architecte law literature maritime history military	performing artsphilosophypolitics/government urereligionsciencesocial historytransportation X other: Funerary
Specific dates	1818,1932,1995	A	Architect/Builder U	nknown
Construction date	es 1818, 1937 ca., 1997			
Evaluation for:				
N	lational Register	.Maryla	and Register	JL not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Located at 12940 Harford Road, the property known as Pork Forest is sited at the top of a low hill to the north of Harford Road, in the village of Reckord. Replacing an earlier one-story log house, Joseph Johnson constructed the extant two-and-a-half-story stone dwelling in 1818, using the popular Federal style of architecture to guide form and detailing. The thirty-five-acre parcel remained in the Johnson family until its 1932 sale by Matthew M. Johnson to architect John H. Scarff, who expanded the dwelling and landscaped the property.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The tract of land known as Pork Forest was owned in the Colonial period by Thomas Gorsuch. 'By 1798, however, the land encompassing the present-day property known as Pork Forest belonged to Matthew Johnson. At that time, the county tax list noted Johnson's holdings as including 123 acres of land and a one-story log house. In 1818, Joseph Johnson replaced the log house with the extant two-and-a-half story stone dwelling.

The Federal style building's form and interior ornament were typical of dwellings constructed throughout Baltimore County in the early 19th century. Constructed of indigenous granite, the dwelling at Pork Forest reflects an architectural trend that was popular from the 1780s until the 1820s. The Federal style of architecture followed the Colonial era, and signified the new role that the country had taken following the Revolutionary War (1775-1781). Influenced by contemporary British architecture, particularly that of the Adams brothers, high-style interpretations of the Federal style were the signature of the wealthy American mercantile class. By the early 19th century, the style was adapted to the tastes and incomes of the middle class, which tended to abstract certain characteristics from the style and interpret them in a more vernacular form. Certain aspects of the Johnson's house that reflect this tendency are two-and-a-half-story, hall/parlor form, the modest Federal style mantles, molded chair rail, and boxed winder stair.

At the time of the dwelling's construction, the Harford Turnpike was beginning completion from the six-mile stone to the Gunpowder Falls. The turnpike company had organized two years earlier with \$60,000 capital raised from the sale of stocks that cost \$50 per share. Within one year, this portion of the road was completed, and it opened for travel by October 1819.³

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^ S

The 1823 tax ledger incorrectly identifies the name as "Poke Forest."

² Rachel Carly, The Visual Dictionary of American Domestic Architecture, (New York, NY: Henry Holt and Company, 1994), p. 91.

³ William Hollifield, *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County* (Cockeysville, MD: The Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978), p. 71.

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The Johnson family constructed their dwelling in the vicinity of the grist and sawmill operated by Wells Clayton in the mid-19th century. Clayton's land was located in the center of a small village that came to be called Reckord, after the milling interests were purchased in 1860 by Henry Reckord, who expanded the gristmill and fertilizer factory.⁴

Throughout the mid- to latel9th century, Pork Forest remained in the Johnson's possession, and members of the family were buried in the family plot located to the north of the house. According to the 1850 county atlas, James Johnson occupied the dwelling. After James Johnson willed the dwelling and thirty-five acres to his children Matthew M. Johnson and Sarah Montgomery Hall in the 1860s, the latter acquired full title to the land in 1915. After occupying the house in the late 19th and early 20th century, Matthew Johnson then sold the dwelling and thirty-five acres to architect John H. Scarff in 1932.⁵

It was during Scarff s ownership and occupancy of the property that the house was enlarged by the construction of a two-story wood frame addition clad in board-and-batten siding. Additionally, some of the land surrounding the house was altered to reflect the early 20th century trend toward Colonial Revival style landscapes. Scarff graded the land to the south of the house with a low stone retaining wall that extended in an east-west direction and defined the north side of a grassy avenue with an eastern terminus at a square gazebo. The south border of this avenue was marked by the placement of four Ionic columns.

In 1962, John Scarff sold the dwelling and eleven acres to Lanious K. Reighard. The Reighard familly in turn sold the property to Dr. Alice Baghdassarian Granoff in 1968. It was Dr. Granoff who sold the property to the current owners in 1995.

The stone dwelling has changed little since its ownership by John Scarff in the 1930s. The exterior has been altered only by the 1997 construction of a one-story, brick-veneered wood frame addition to the north elevation. This alteration was necessitated by the deterioration of the existing board-and-batten-clad wood frame addition constructed in the 1930s. The property has retained its rural setting away from Harford Road.

Chain of Title:

This house was built by the Johnson Family. Joseph Johnson left the property to his sons Joseph, James and Matthew.

John W. McGrain, From Pig Iron to Cotton Duck: A History of Manufacturing Villages in Baltimore County (Towson, MD: Baltimore County Public Library, 1985), p. 298.

⁵ J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maiyland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850) np; see also *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877), np. and *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915) np.

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January 2, 1863: James Johnson to Matthew M. Johnson and Sarah Montgomery Hall, his children

Will Records of Baltimore County

LiberJLR3 Folio 354

March 13, 1915: Sarah M Hall, widow, to Matthew M Johnson

Will Records of Baltimore County

Liber 441 Folio 303

October 1, 1932: Matthew M. Johnson to John H. Scarff

Land Records of Baltimore County

Liber 904 Folio 114

October 8, 1962: John M. Scarff to Lanious K. Reighard

Land Records of Baltimore County

Liber 4063 Folio 196

March 7, 1968: Lanious K. and Christine W. Reighard to Alice Baghdassarian Granoff, Mary

Baghdassarian, and Olga B. Gatewood Land Records of Baltimore County

Liber 4855 Folio 287

February 22, 1974: Olga B. Gatewood to Dr. Alice Baghdassarian Granoff

Land Records of Baltimore County

Liber 5436 Folio 22

September 12, 1995: Dr. Alice Baghdassarian Granoff to Daniel L. and Mildred S. Scroggs

Land Records of Baltimore County

Liber 11212 Folio 548

inventory NO B A 0279

9. Major Bibliographical References

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

Map of Baltimore County. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Hollifield, William. *Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County.* Cockeysville, MD: The Baltimore County Historical Society, 1978.

McGrain, John W. From Pig Iron to Cotton Duck: A History of Manufacturing Villages in Baltimore County. Towson, MD: Baltimore County Public Library, 1985.

Sidney, J.C. Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property
Acreage of historical setting

Quadrangle name

11.96

35

Quadrangle name

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Since 1818, Pork Forest has been associated with the 11.96 acres known as parcel 101 of map 45, located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's Office.

11. Form Prepared by

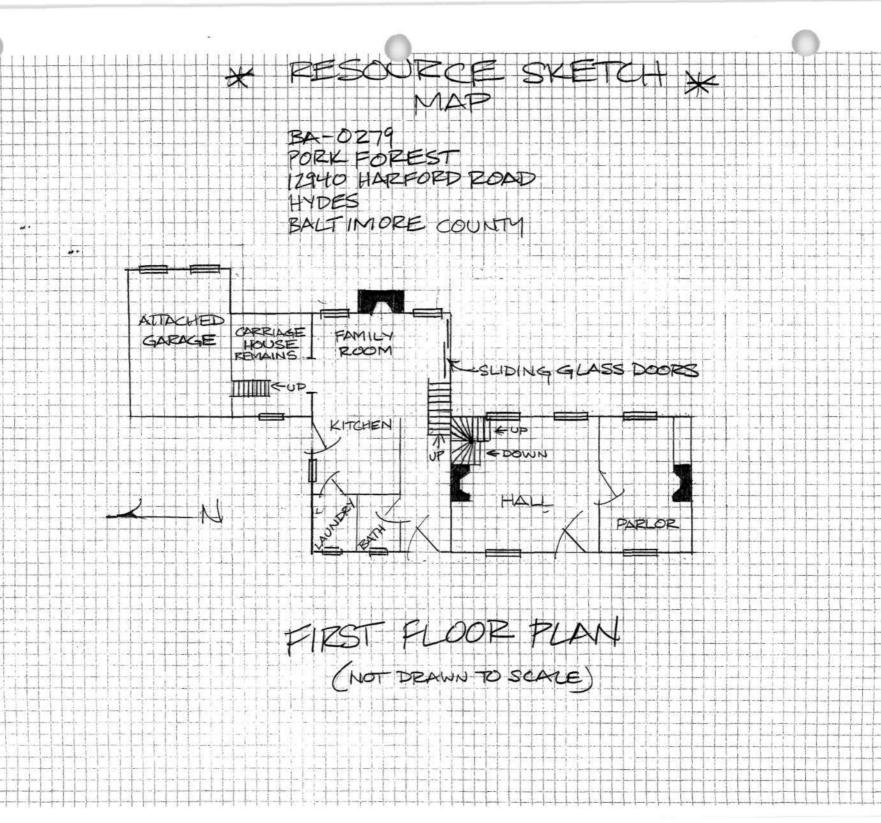
name/title	A. McDonald, R. Weidlich, and A. Didden, Architectural Historians				
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	February 21, 2001		
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199		
city or town	Washington	state	DC		

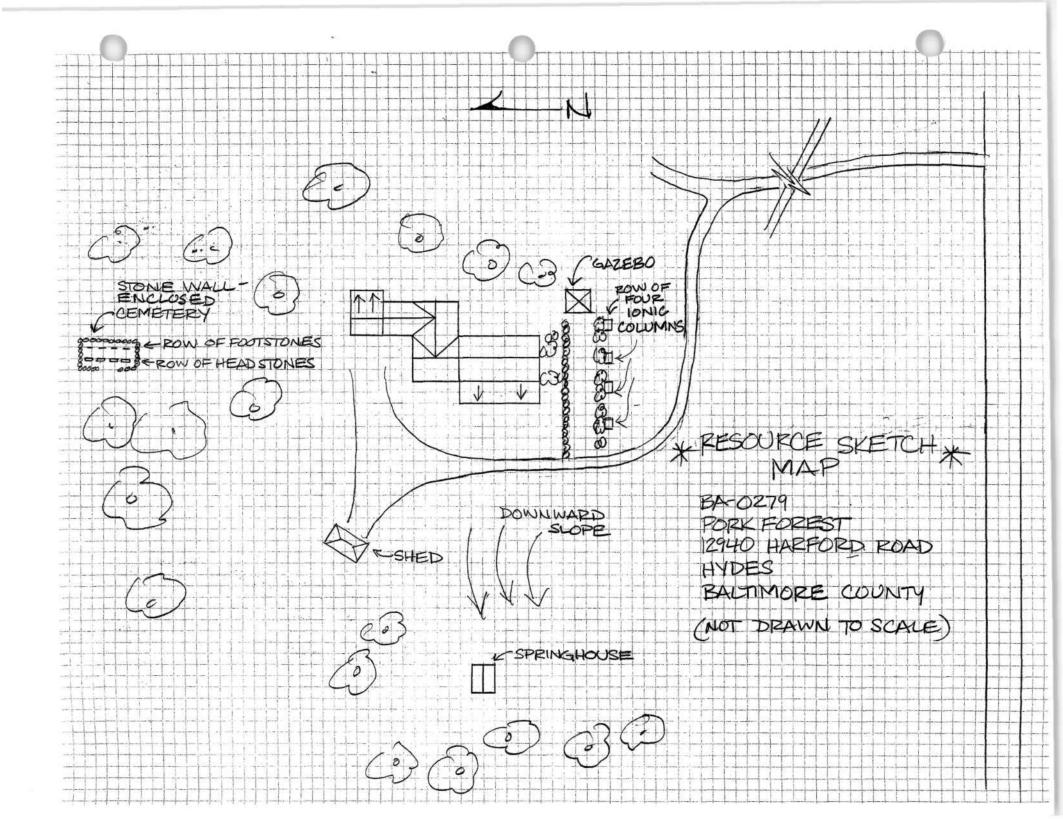
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

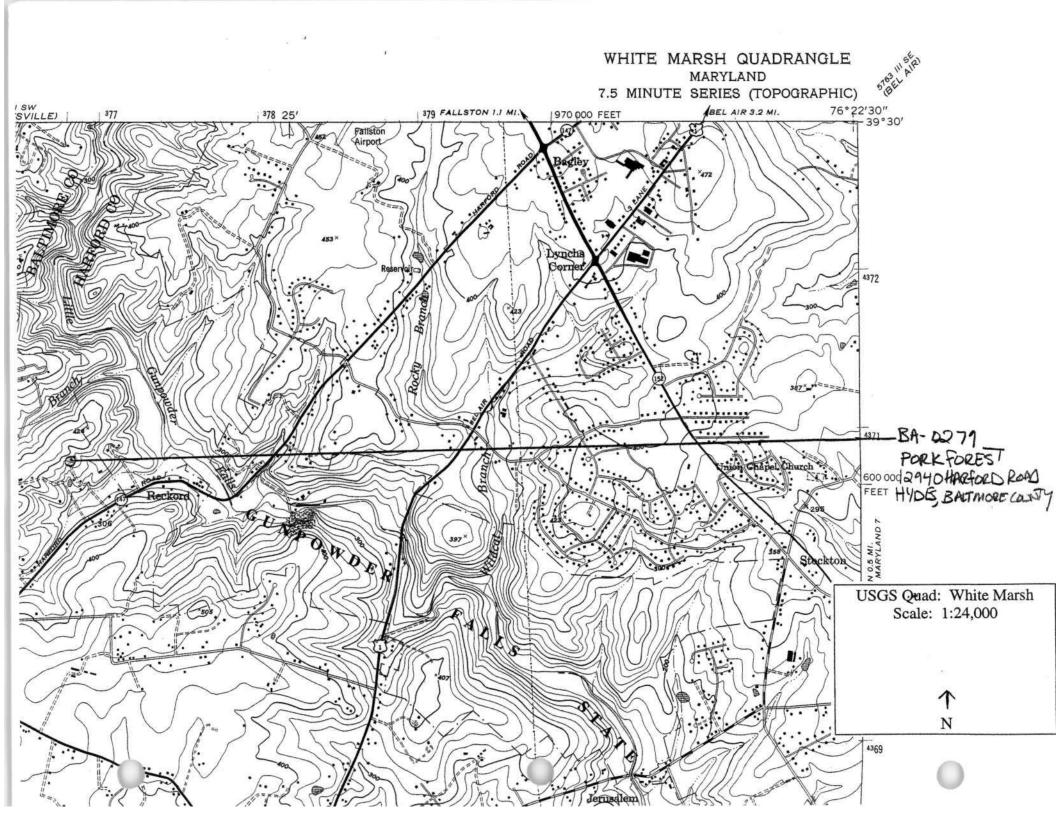
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

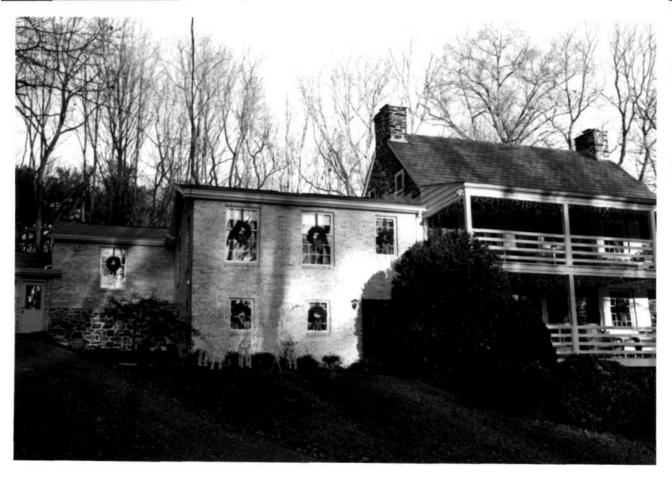
return to: Maryland Historical Trust

DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600









BALTMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE, EAST ELEVATION CAMERA FACING WEST

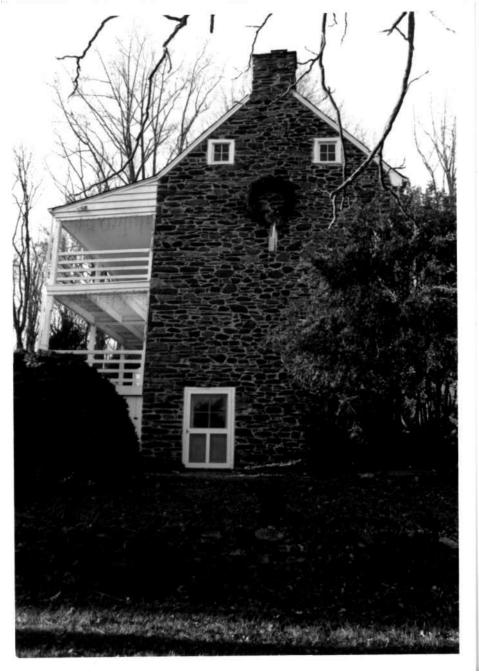
BA-0279

PORK FOREST

12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES



PORK FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE, SOUTHWEST CORNER, CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST 2/15



PORK FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE, SOUTH ELEVATION, CAMERA FACING NORTH



BA-0279 PORK FORESI 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE, EAST ELEVATION OF ORIGINAL DWELLING, CAMERA FACING NORTHWEST



BA-0279 PORK FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE, EAST ELEVATION, CAMERA FACING SOUTHWEST



BA-0279 PORK FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MDSHPO MAIN HOUSE, MORTH ELEVATION, CAMERA FACING SOUTH



POPIL FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, HALL, CAMERA FACING NORTH



BA-0279 PORK FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMIORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, PARLOR, CAMERA FACING SOUTHEAST



BA-0279 PORK FOREST 12940. HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR SECOND FLOOR NORTH CHAMBER CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST



BA-0279 PORK FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, ATTIC FRAMING, CAMERA FACING WEST



PORK FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACEPIES 12/2000 MD SHPO MAIN HOUSE INTERIOR, BASEMENT HEARTH, CAMERA FACING SOUTHEAST



12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 142000 MD SHPO CEMETERY, CAMERA FACING SOUTHEAST

BA-0279

PORK FOREST



BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO SPRINGHOUSE, EAST ELEVATION CAMERA FACING NORTHWEST 13/15

BA-0279

PORK FOREST

12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES



KYLIO LAKFORD ROAL, HYDES BALTMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MD SHPO GAZEBO, WEST ELEVATION, CAMERA FACING EAST 14/15



BA-0279 PORK FOREST 12940 HARFORD ROAD, HYDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND TRACERIES 12/2000 MDSHPO COLUMNS, CAMERA FACING SOUTHWEST

PORK FOREST - About 1787 - About 1 mile north of Fork on Park Forest Road, north side of road. Two-story stone farm house in vernacular style, built about 1787 on a tract owned by Joseph Johnson. Also a small frame wing in vertical board and batten. Double-deck porch on main block. Photographed in 1930s by WPA's HABS project. Property remained in Johnson family until 1933 when purchased by John H. Scarff, who laid out elaborate Renaissance-style gardens. Later owned by Dr. Alice Baghdassarian Granoff. The Johnson grave plot is on this property.